GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:146
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
SETTING UP OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORT ZONE
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Agri-Export Zones to boost agricultural exports;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Government is in the process of helping the States to establish Agri-ExportZones in various States that have export potential. The concept of Agri-Export Zonetakes a comprehensive view of a particular produce/product located in a geographically contiguous area for the purpose of developing and sourcing raw material, their processing/packaging, leading to final exports. The entire effort is centered around a cluster approach of identifying the potential products, geographical region in which these products are grown and adopting an end to end approach of integrating the entire process, right from the stage of production till it reaches the consumption stage. The idea behind Agri-Export Zone is to dovetail all the incentive schemes of the State andCentral Government and evolve a comprehensive package of services provided by all State Government agencies and Agricultural Universities and all Institutions and Agencies of the Central Government for intensive delivery in these Zones.Such services would be managed and coordinated by the State Government. The State Governments will identify the produce which would be developed for exports having comparative advantage and potential in the markets abroad and submit the proposal to the Government of India for clearance. It will thereafter enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with APEDA for the implementation of the proposal.

(c) The Government has already given `in principle` approval for setting up of sixAgri-Export Zones in various States.These are at various stages of implementation and export from some of these zones could commence by the end of this financial year.